

MUMETA
Specialist Photographers.
All kinds of Photographs.
Work done in latest styles.
also Passport Photos.
Developing and Printing for
Amateurs a Speciality.
No. 44, Queen's Road Central.
Tel. 254.

The China Mail.

ESTABLISHED 1843

OVERLAND CHINA MAIL
PUBLISHED EVERY
MAIL DAY.
Contains the Week's News
of Hongkong and the
Far East.
Prices (including Postage) to any
part of the world \$12.
per annum.

No. 18740.

號六月七年七十百九千壹第

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1917.

辰丙次歲年六國民華中

PRICE 33.00 Per Month

THORNES

OLD VAT No. 4. SCOTCH WHISKY.

SOLE AGENTS:

A. S. WATSON & Co. Ltd.
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS
HONGKONG
Tel. 216.



NOTICE.

ANY EUROPEAN, NON ASIATIC or
INDIAN desiring to leave the
Colony should apply in person at the
Central Police Station between the hours
of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 5 P.M. to 6 P.M.
daily.
Applicants will be required to produce
Passports or identification papers. All
persons, with certain exceptions, who
remain in the Colony for more than
seven days are required to register their
names under the REGISTRATION OF
PERSONS ORDINANCE 1914. Forms
of Registration giving the particulars
required may be obtained at the G.P.O.
and at all Police Stations.
The Penalty for non-compliance is a
fine not exceeding \$50.

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY,
LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
8.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
11.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 8.10 p.m. Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS

5.40 p.m. and 9 p.m., 9.30 p.m. to 11.00
p.m. every half hour.
11.00 p.m. to 11.45 p.m. every quarter of
an hour.

SATURDAY.

7.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
12.30 p.m. to 1.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
7.00 p.m. to 8.10 p.m. Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS at Week Days.

SATURDAY.

Extra Car at 12 midnight.
SPECIAL CARS by arrangements at the
Company's Office, ALEXANDRA BUILDING,
200, Queen's Road Central.

Season and punch tickets available for
all cars not already full running at the
time stated in the Company's time tables,
but not for special cars, can be obtained
on application at the Company's Office.
No Season ticket will be issued until
payment therefor has been made in Bank
Notes or by Cheque or Comproadors order
representing Bank Notes.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.

THE FIRST CHINESE NEWSPAPER
EVER ISSUED UNDER
PURELY NATIVE DIRECTION.

The Chinese Mail

華字日報

THE LEADING CHINESE POLITICAL AND
COMMERCIAL JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

CONTAINS THE MOST RELIABLE
TELEGRAPHIC NEWS FROM
NORTH CHINA.

ALL THE LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM
VARIOUS PORTS IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

\$17.00 per annum delivered in Hongkong
\$17.00 to all other parts.

5, WILKINSON STREET, HONGKONG.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

STEAM OR MOTOR VESSELS

8,000 Tons, 8,000 Horse Power now Built.
Steel Building Work of every Description.
Castings, Forgings, Repairs and Supplies.

Prompt Attention and Shipment to Destination.
INJECTORS AND STEAM PUMPS.

W. S. BAILEY & Co., Ltd.

ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS.
KOWLOON BAY

DRAGON MOTOR CAR CO.

SOLE DISTRIBUTORS FOR THE FAMOUS



TELEPHONE 482.
COME AND INSPECT
BEST CARS IN THE COLONY FOR HIRE.

CRUICKSHANK'S COUGH REMEDY.

A VALUABLE REMEDY FOR INFLUENZA COLDS,
BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA AND ALL DISEASES
OF THE CHEST AND LUNGS.

Price \$1.00 Per Bottle.

N.B.—REDUCTION IN PRICES FROM 1st JANUARY.

VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

33 QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL.

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING Co., Ltd.

Established 1883

MANUFACTURERS OF

PURE Manila ROPE

STRAND	CABLE LAD	4 STRAND
1" to 15"	5" to 15"	3" to 10"
CIRCUMFERENCE	CIRCUMFERENCE	CIRCUMFERENCE

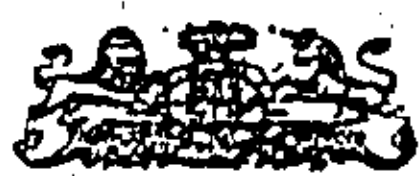
Oil Drilling Cables of any size up to 3,000 feet in length

Prices, samples and full particulars will be forwarded on application to

Shewan, Tomes & Co., General Manager.

Hongkong, April 11, 1913.

501



GILBEY'S SPEY-ROYAL SCOTCH WHISKY.

IS GUARANTEED TO BE MADE FROM
PURE Malted BARLEY IN A POT STILL.

10 YEARS OLD.

SOLE AGENTS:

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

Telephone No. 619.

THE KWONG HIP LUNG CO., LTD.

(NOW RECONSTRUCTED)

ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS. BOILER-MAKING. BRASS and IRON
FOUNDRIES. All work done in this establishment is guaranteed. We have
over thirty years' experience. We own two Shipyards and can accommodate any craft
of 200 tons tonnage.
Town Office: 48, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONGKONG. Telephone No. 459.
Shipyards: Sham-Sui-Po, Kowloon, HONGKONG. Telephone No. 9.
Estimates furnished on application.

Hongkong, April 1, 1913.

WONG PING WA, Manager.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

TAIKOO DOCKYARD.
BUILDERS OF SHIPS & ENGINES.
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
—THE TAIKOO DOCKYARD & ENGINEERING COMPANY—
—OF HONGKONG LTD.—
AGENTS:
—TELEGRAPHIC AND—
—"TAIKOO"—
SUTHERLAND & SONS
—Telephone No. 212—

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LD PORTLAND CEMENT

In Casks of 375 lbs. net.

In Bags of 250 lbs. net.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.

GENERAL MANAGERS.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL AND GRILL ROOM

J. H. TAGGART,
MANAGER.

PEAK HOTEL.

ADMIRABLY SITUATED AT VICTORIA GAP.

Adjoining the Tramway Terminus, 1,400 feet above Sea Level.

A FIRST-CLASS FAMILY RESIDENTIAL AND TOURISTS HOTEL.

Telephones in all rooms. First-class Cuisine, Lounge, Smoking and Ladies
rooms, Roof Garden.
Terms:—From \$5 per day upwards. Telegraph add: "Peaceful"
P. O. FEUSTEL
Manager.

PATELL & CO.

Importers-Exporters

Commission Agents

HONGKONG

Branches:—
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
YOKOHAMA, JAPAN
BOMBAY, INDIA.

China:—
HANKOW,
SHANGHAI,
CANTON.

KING EDWARD HOTEL.

Central Location.
All Electric Trains Pass Entrance.
Electric Lifts, Fans and Lighting.
European Bath and Sanitary Fixtures.
Hot and Cold Water System throughout.
Best of Food and Service.

Telephones 375.
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"VICTORIA." J. WITCHELL,
Manager.

TANG YUK LING, successor to
late SIEN TING
14, D'ARVILLE STREET.

TERMS VERY MODERATE
Consultation Free.

THE WAR.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

FIGHTING NEAR LOOS.

GERMAN CLAIMS.

PENETRATED ENGLISH FOURTH
LINE.

LONDON, Jan. 5.

A German official report, received
by wireless, says:

We penetrated the fourth line
eastward of Loos, inflicting sanguinary
losses on the English.

FRENCH AERIAL BOMBING ACTIVITY.

PARIS, Jan. 5.

A communiqué reports lively artill-
ery work in the Douaumont and
Vaux sectors.

It also mentions that twenty
French aeroplanes bombed aerodromes
at Masigny, Haucourt, Fleix
and Bernes, and the railway stations
of Ronilly, Athènes, and Villecourt
and cantonments at Roye.

GREECE AND THE ALLIES' NOTE.

CERTAIN CLAUSES REJECTED.

ATHENS, Jan. 5.

The ex-Premier who were con-
sulted by the King unanimously
decided that the Entente Note was
unacceptable inasmuch as its accep-
tance was equivalent to recognition
that Greece contemplated attacking
General Sarraïl's rear.

It is stated that the Government
and King Constantine have decided
to reject certain clauses of the Note
and passively submit to the con-
sequences.

The blockade has made the prices
of necessities exorbitant.

AN ITALIAN SUCCESS.

LONDON, Jan. 5.

An Italian official report states:
We repulsed violent night attacks
between Adige and Lake Garda;
compelling the enemy to retire in
disorder with heavy losses.

We advanced 200 metres by a
sudden and successful attack, estab-
lishing new positions in the Fatti
area of Carno.

CONFERENCE ON THE GENERAL SITUATION.

BRITISH MINISTERS AT ROME.

LONDON, Jan. 5.

It is officially announced that Mr.
Lloyd George (Prime Minister) and
Lord Milner (a member of the War
Cabinet), with official advisers have
arrived in Rome to participate with
the French and Italian Governments
in an exchange of views on the
general situation.

KING FERDINAND AND THE KAISER.

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 5.

The King of Bulgaria had a lengthy
conference with the Kaiser at the
German Headquarters on the 3rd
inst.

NEW YORK MARKETS AND PEACE FLUTTERINGS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.

The markets have weakened owing
to a report that President Wilson
will make another move towards
peace if the Entente declines to
disclose its peace terms.

RETRIBUTION.

THE EXPORT OF COAL TO NORWAY.

LONDON, Jan. 5.

Reuter learns that the export of
coal from the United Kingdom to
Norway has been severely restricted
owing to the export of fish pyrites
from Norway to Germany in con-
tinuation of agreements.

CANADIAN ENLISTMENTS.

OTTAWA, Jan. 5.

Up to the present 285,955 men
have enlisted in Canada.

THE FLOODS IN QUEENSLAND.

BRISBANE, Jan. 5.

The Flinders River has overflowed
and the surrounding country is
submerged.

The Fitzroy River continues to
rise and Rockhampton is endangered.
(Continued on Page 6.)

Another of C. & B.'s Delicacies

C. & B. OXFORD SAUSAGES

UNEXCELLED.

Crosse & Blackwell guarantee these and all their other table delicacies to be produced under ideal conditions of cleanliness.

AGENTS FOR LEA & PERRINS WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE



Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY GENUINE.

DIARRHOEA, and is the only Specific in CHOLERA and DYSENTERY.

Chlorodyne is a liquid taken in drops, graduated according to the malady. It invariably relieves pain of whatever kind; creates a calm refreshing sleep; always irritates the nervous system when all other remedies fail; leaves no bad effects; and can be taken when no other medicine can be tolerated.

CONVINCING MEDICAL TESTIMONY WITH EACH BOTTLE

Sole Manufacturers: J. T. DAVENPORT, Ltd., London, S.E.

Hughes & Hough

Auctioneers to the Government.

General Auctioneers
Share, Coal and General Produce
Brokers and Commission Agents

PROPRIETORS
"Ho-Kwa-Wan" Coal Storage.

Ordnance and
Bentley's
A. & C. 4th & 5th Editions.
A 1 Telegraphic Code.

Telegraphic Address
"MERITOR" HONGKONG.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT), on

TUESDAY,
the 9th January, 1917, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street.

A LARGE QUANTITY OF VALUABLE TEAKWOOD AND SUNDRY BLACKWOOD FURNITURE, &c., &c.

As follows:—
Two Upholstered Suites, Arm-chairs and Sofas, Card Tables, Bedroom Furniture, Double Brass-mounted Bedstead, Brass and Teakwood Twin Bedsteads, Sideboards, Dinner Waggon, Extension Dining Tables and Chairs, Tea and Occasional Tables, etc., etc., Dinner Services, Crockery, Glass Ware, Cooking Stoves, Cutlery, Toilet Set, &c., Bath Room, Utensils, Large "Bell-top" Desk and Writing Tables, etc., Sundry Electric Fitted Ware.

Piano by Challen and Sons, London, in good condition, Electric Reading Lamp and Stove (New), Blackwood and Teakwood Screens, a quantity of Blackwood Furniture, Pictures, Engravings, Carpets and Rugs, Cloaks, &c., &c.

Also
Gent's Bicycle (new), Tennis Racket and Netting, &c., &c., Brass Finger Bowls, Child's Cots, Perambulator, etc. (Full Particulars from Catalogue.)
Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Jan. 4, 1917. 1334

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT), on

THURSDAY,
the 11th January, 1917, at 10.30 a.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street.

A MISCELLANEOUS STOCK, comprising:—
Gent's Woollen Singlets and pants, Skirts, Ties, Suspenders, Socks, &c., a few pair Ladies' and Gent's Boots and Shoes, Bath Robes and Gowns, Canteenware, Blankets, Bath and Face Towels, Toilet Soap, &c., &c., &c.

A quantity of Dress Material, Sun and Bathing Hats.

Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Jan. 4, 1917. 1333

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT), on

AN EARLY DATE.
The following LIGHTHOUSE GEAR, &c., viz:—
One working apparatus, complete. Circular wick lamp. Spare burners. Cylinders and wicks. Incandescent Petrol Lamp, and accessories.

And
A quantity of gear pertaining to Messing Buoy.

Also
A number of Locomotive wheels and Axles.

Further particulars may be obtained from the undersigned.

Terms:—as usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Aug. 24, 1916. 1343

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT), on

SATURDAY,
the 30th January, 1917, at 12 noon, at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street.

The Revenue Cruiser
"KUNG TING"
as she now lies on Oahu Island. Extensive repairs were made to this vessel quite recently.

For further particulars apply to the undersigned.

Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Dec. 23, 1916. 1373

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT), on

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY, THERAPION No. 1.
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AUCTIONS.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT), on

TUESDAY,
the 9th January, 1917, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street.

A LARGE QUANTITY OF VALUABLE TEAKWOOD AND SUNDRY BLACKWOOD FURNITURE, &c., &c.

As follows:—
Two Upholstered Suites, Arm-chairs and Sofas, Card Tables, Bedroom Furniture, Double Brass-mounted Bedstead, Brass and Teakwood Twin Bedsteads, Sideboards, Dinner Waggon, Extension Dining Tables and Chairs, Tea and Occasional Tables, etc., etc., Dinner Services, Crockery, Glass Ware, Cooking Stoves, Cutlery, Toilet Set, &c., Bath Room, Utensils, Large "Bell-top" Desk and Writing Tables, etc., Sundry Electric Fitted Ware.

Piano by Challen and Sons, London, in good condition, Electric Reading Lamp and Stove (New), Blackwood and Teakwood Screens, a quantity of Blackwood Furniture, Pictures, Engravings, Carpets and Rugs, Cloaks, &c., &c.

Also
Gent's Bicycle (new), Tennis Racket and Netting, &c., &c., Brass Finger Bowls, Child's Cots, Perambulator, etc. (Full Particulars from Catalogue.)
Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Jan. 4, 1917. 1334

AUCTIONS.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT), on

THURSDAY,
the 11th January, 1917, at 10.30 a.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street.

A MISCELLANEOUS STOCK, comprising:—
Gent's Woollen Singlets and pants, Skirts, Ties, Suspenders, Socks, &c., a few pair Ladies' and Gent's Boots and Shoes, Bath Robes and Gowns, Canteenware, Blankets, Bath and Face Towels, Toilet Soap, &c., &c., &c.

A quantity of Dress Material, Sun and Bathing Hats.

Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Jan. 4, 1917. 1333

AUCTIONS.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT), on

SATURDAY,
the 30th January, 1917, at 12 noon, at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street.

The Revenue Cruiser
"KUNG TING"
as she now lies on Oahu Island. Extensive repairs were made to this vessel quite recently.

For further particulars apply to the undersigned.

Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Dec. 23, 1916. 1373

AUCTIONS.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT), on

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WATSON'S

BROWN BRANDY

FINEST OLD

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QUALITY.

25 YEARS IN WOOD.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

TEL. NO. 416.

To-day's Advertisements

WANTED.

SHORTHAND WRITER wanted.

Apply by letter. Box 28.
CHINA MAIL OFFICE.
Hongkong, Jan. 6, 1917.

WANTED.

A LADY TYPIST for a General Store. Experienced, and with a fair knowledge of figures. Apply stating salary required to "Store."
C/O CHINA MAIL OFFICE.
Hongkong, Jan. 6, 1917.

HONGKONG & CHINA GAS CO., LD.

The Company begs to notify the Public that the price of Gas will be REDUCED BY TWENTY CENTS per 1,000 cubic feet as from the 1st February next.

By order of the Directors,
GEORGE CUREY,
Local Secretary.
Hongkong, Jan. 6, 1917.

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE.

The Committee has decided that the following shall be the Settlement Days for the year 1917.

MONDAY,	29th January,
TUESDAY,	30th January,
WEDNESDAY,	31st January,
THURSDAY,	1st February,
FRIDAY,	2nd February,
SATURDAY,	3rd February,
SUNDAY,	4th February,
MONDAY,	5th February,
TUESDAY,	6th February,
WEDNESDAY,	7th February,
THURSDAY,	8th February,
FRIDAY,	9th February,
SATURDAY,	10th February,
SUNDAY,	11th February,

By order of the Committee,
EDWARD M. RAYMOND,
Hon. Secretary,
Hongkong Stock Exchange.
Hongkong, Jan. 6, 1917.

THE DIARY.

MEMO. FOR TO-DAY.

9 p.m.—Police Reserve Assault at Arms in Theatre Royal.

MEMO. FOR TO-MORROW.

2.15 p.m.—Rifle Shooting Match between H.K.V.C. and H.K.V.R. at Kowloon.

MEMOS. FOR MONDAY.

3 p.m.—Sale of Crown Land at P.W.D.
2.42 p.m.—Full moon.

General Memoranda.

THURSDAY, Jan. 11.—
10.30.—Auction of a Miscellaneous Stock (Simples, Sweaters, Shirts, Socks etc.) at Messrs. Hughes and Hough's.SATURDAY, Jan. 13.—
Saiyungpan School Prize Giving.
11 a.m.—Ellis Kadoorie School's Prize Giving.WEDNESDAY, Jan. 17.—
Diocesan School Prize Giving.
Noon.—Presentation of Prizes by Lady May at Bellios Public School.SATURDAY, Jan. 20.—
Noon.—Auction of R. C. "Kung Ting" at Messrs. Hughes and Hough's.THURSDAY, Jan. 23.—
Chinese New Year.
General Holiday.THURSDAY, Jan. 25.—
Burns' Night.SATURDAY, Jan. 27.—
Entries close for Hongkong Race Meeting.

VISITING CARDS

PRINTED AT

China Mail Office.

BIRTHS.

ADDIS.—Dec. 1, at 64, Primrose-hill road, London, wife of Sir Charles Addis, son.

ASHLEY.—On December 30, at Shanghai to Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE FREDERICK ASHLEY, a daughter.

NEILD.—On January 1, at Shanghai, the wife of F. M. NEILD, of a son.

DEATHS.

BRAGA.—MARJORIE ELAINE STEWART, aged one year, beloved daughter of J. VINCENT and GLADYS BRAGA, on s.s. Shinyo Maru at Sea, 16th December.

CLEMENTI-SMITH.—Nov. 29, at Bogmor, Dame Teresa Clementi-Smith, widow of Right Honourable Sir Cecil Clementi-Smith, G.C.M.G.

D'ALMEIDA.—At Shanghai on 29th December, 1916, GUTHRIERINA MARIA D'ALMEIDA aged 44.

The China Mail.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JAN. 6, 1917.

WEST RIVER CONSERVANCY.

Good evidence is afforded by the issue of a somewhat voluminous report and many maps that the new Board of Conservancy Works of Kwangtung proposes to deal with the problem of flood prevention in the regions of the West and North Rivers along the only adequate lines. The formation of the Conservancy Board followed upon the disastrous and unprecedented floods of 1914. The riparian populations decided that "a practical solution" of the question of regulating the waters of the rivers must be found, and the discussion of the matter was subsequently transferred to Peking. Admiral TAN Hsia Hsiao, the Director-General of the Conservancy Board, tells us in an introduction to the Report of the surveys made in 1915 that "the whole body of the metropolitan officers was of the one opinion that these disastrous floods should, once for all, be prevented by improvement and regulation of the rivers." The first step taken was to form a Conservancy Board and the next step was to get some preliminary advice from a competent engineer. Mr. V. HEIDENSTAM, the Engineer-in-Chief of the Whampoa Conservancy Board, was instructed by the Board of Foreign Affairs to make an inspection and report. After making an inspection Mr. V. HEIDENSTAM advised that "a reliable, definite and detailed scheme for the conservancy of the West River requires as a basis *sine qua non* a detailed survey of certain critical reaches of the river and of the dyke systems, as well as a complete hydrographic investigation during a period of one year." He very properly advised that without such a survey no expert engineer would be able to express a qualified opinion on the works required, much less to evolve a definite scheme and estimate the cost. Mr. V. HEIDENSTAM's advice was readily taken, and he was asked for his assistance in selecting a qualified man to fill the position of Chief Engineer and Surveyor to the Board. He recommended Captain G. W. OLIVECRONA of the Royal Swedish

Corps of Engineers, and it is this gentleman's report which has just been issued in English and Chinese, with several maps and photographic views of parts of the river. Captain

OLIVECRONA has the assistance of two foreign and four Chinese engineers, and "a number of students from railway and military educational institutions." The survey was commenced in June 1915 and the Report just issued carries the work down to June 1916. In accordance with Mr. V. HEIDENSTAM's suggestion, the survey work has been so divided as to cover a period of two years. During the first year the surveying and hydrographical observation work was to be completed and observation stations established along the river; and during the second year the results of the survey and the observations were to be systematized and printed, and a definite scheme for protection against floods obtained from expert engineers on the survey. The Report gives much detailed information regarding the surveys, and concludes with "a preliminary programme and estimate for the first six years' work." Work is recommended entailing an expenditure of roughly about two million dollars a year, the total cost being worked out at \$11,369,000. It remains now for the authorities to decide as to whether they will adopt this programme of work, or whether the report will be pigeon-holed, as so many other valuable reports of a similar character have been in China. We trust that the authorities are firmly resolved to adhere to their decision in 1914, namely to prevent a recurrence of disastrous floods by improvement and regulation of the rivers. We do not know whether any effort was ever made to ascertain the full extent of the damage to property and to trade and industry caused by the floods of 1914, but we think the opinion might safely be hazarded that it was considerably in excess of the total estimate for the six years' programme of work Captain OLIVECRONA advises, and that fact alone is a sufficient recommendation and justification for the expenditure.

The annual meeting of shareholders and subscribers to St. John's Cathedral will be held at the City Hall on Friday, January 26th, at 5.30 p.m.

The assault at arms promoted under the auspices of the Police Reserve takes place at the Theatre Royal to-night. Great interest is being evinced in many of the events and a large attendance is assured.

Mr. Denman Fuller hopes to give selections from Mendelssohn's "Elijah" on Good Friday evening next, at which a collection will be made in aid of certain War Funds. As in previous years the practices will be held in the Cathedral on Thursdays in Lent and Mr. Denman Fuller will be glad to hear from ladies and gentlemen willing to assist in due course.

An Indian, who twice deserted from a steamer at this port, was charged at the Magistracy before Mr. Melbourne this morning with landing in the Colony and failing to register. A fine of \$25 was imposed, but Mr. Wodehouse, Deputy Superintendent of Police, remarked that he did not think the man could find the money, and he would be kept in prison until the steamer returned to port when he would be put on board.

It is stated in Church Notes that the Organ of St. John's Cathedral has for some time past been in a very bad condition; as each dry season comes round certain defects in vital sections of the instrument have become more and more accentuated, and this year the excessive dryness of the past three months had so aggravated them that many of the stops are unusable. Under the circumstances it has been impossible to continue the regular Organ Recitals, but it is hoped that the organ may undergo a complete overhauling during the next few weeks on the completion of which they will be resumed.

COLONEL L. G. BIRD AWARDED THE D.S.O.

The many friends in Hongkong of Mr. L. G. Bird, of the firm of Messrs. Palmer and Turner, and now Colonel commanding the 11th Batt. Lancashire Fusiliers, will be gratified to learn that he has been awarded the Distinguished Service Order.

"MUSICAL APPRECIATION."

LECTURES BY MR. DENMAN FULLER.

Mr. Denman Fuller will give a series of lectures, to which all are invited, on "Musical Appreciation" on Mondays, January 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th, at the Helena May Institute. A collection will be made at the conclusion of each lecture on behalf of the Fund for Blind Sailors and Soldiers.

The object of the lectures will be to enable those present to obtain a deeper knowledge and appreciation of good music, particularly of the type less seldom heard. The compositions played and explained at the first lecture (January 8th) will be Ballade in F minor (Chopin), Prelude and Fugue in C sharp minor (Bach), Sphinx (Cyril Scott).

At the last lecture Mr. Fuller will deal with pieces suggested to him by the audience.

By kind permission of H. E. Sir Henry May, Mr. Denman Fuller will give a Piano Recital in the Ball Room at Government House at the end of January, and at each of the four lectures he will refer to and speak of the principal works he will play at that Recital.

AN AMERICAN HONORARY COMMERCIAL MISSION.

The following is an extract of a letter received by the North-west Trading Co. of Hongkong from their Head Office at Seattle under date of November 20:—

An American Honorary Commercial Commission to return the visit of the Chinese Honorary Commercial Commission by making a trip through China, and the delegation will leave here on the s.s. "Empress of Russia" sailing January 25, 1917.

I have the itinerary and it states that the party will arrive in Hongkong on February 15, and will remain there until February 20, when they leave for Canton and then for Canton to Shanghai. The trip also includes visits to Nanking, Hankow, Peking, Tientsin, Mukden, Seoul, Shimonoseki, and then all through Japan on the return.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) D. W. HARTZELL,
North-west Trading Company.

The Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce and the Chinese Chamber of Commerce have been approached with a view to form a Reception Committee for this body. We believe that the Chinese Honorary Commercial Commission were very well received and entertained on their recent visit to the United States.

FOOD AND DRUGS ORDINANCE.

SAMPLES ANALYSED.

The following return is published in the Gazette, over the signature of Mr. E. R. Dorey, Government Analyst of samples examined under "The Sale of Food and Drugs Ordinance, 1896," for the year ended 31st December, 1916:—

Description.	Number of samples.	Number found genuine.	Number found adulterated.
Beer,	6	6	0
Brandy,	6	6	0
Bread,	2	2	0
Flour,	1	1	0
Gin,	2	2	0
Milk,	69	60	9
Port Wine,	3	3	0
Rum,	7	6	1
Sherry,	3	3	0
Whisky,	8	6	2

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. Roger Edward Lindell to be a Member of the Board of Examiners.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. G. C. Moxon to be a 2nd Lieutenant in the Hongkong Volunteer Reserve, with effect from the 27th December, 1916.

The engagement is announced between Mr. Cecil H. B. Joly, Chinese Maritime Customs, Ningpo, and Miss G.E.M. ("Edie") Bradgate, eldest daughter of Mr. W. Kemp Bradgate, Chinese Government Railways, Hankow.

Mr. A. H. Compton, who was recently appointed a member of the Church Body of St. John's Cathedral, has resigned owing to his removal (temporarily) to Shanghai.

CORRESPONDENCE.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN SAILORS SOCIETY.

11, Downing St.,
London, S.W.
5th December, 1916.

(To the Editor of the "CHINA MAIL.")

DEAR SIR.—I venture to appeal to the sympathetic interest of your wide circle of readers in a cause which is very near my heart, and which, in a variety of ways, is voicing the Empire's gratitude to our Sailors.

In addition to its lengthy programme of practical help, the British and Foreign Sailors' Society has been entrusted by the Authorities with definite responsibility for the immediate welfare of aged mothers, widows and orphans of the heroic Seamen who have fallen whilst on Active Service; and in spite of the many appeals of the present hour, I know of nothing more deserving of our generous support.

For, it must be remembered, in addition to all that can reasonably be expected from the State, there naturally remain considerable duties, which indeed, can only be met through the generosity of large-hearted patriots.

It is estimated that at least £50,000 will be necessary for the great task the Sailors' Society has set itself, and knowing personally, as I do, its practical methods, its world-wide outlook, and its efficient administration, I ask your valued co-operation.

In view of the pressing need, it would give me personal pleasure to receive a generous donation from your readers. The smallest gifts will be, more than welcome.

Believe me to be,

Very truly yours,

MARGARET LLOYD GEORGE.

MINING IN SOUTH CHINA.

THE QUICKSILVER CENTRE.

A correspondent of the "N. C. Daily News," writing from Kueiyang, says:—

On a recent trip to the north of Kueiyang I passed through Pohnatung some 110 li from this city, where many years ago mining for quicksilver was carried on to a considerable extent. Even now there are indications that the place was once the centre of a big industry, but for years past, since an accident by which the biggest mines were flooded to such an extent that it has not been possible to get the water out, it has declined until there is but a small street with a market of two or three hundred in attendance every six days. Every now and again, enterprising men with a little capital have started mining but in each case with almost no success.

Quite a number of years ago, the manager (British) of an Anglo-French Syndicate working on the eastern border of Kueichow went to Pohnatung and examined the possibilities of successful mining with modern machinery. He afterwards applied to the Provincial Governor for a concession to take over all quicksilver mining rights east of Kueiyang, offering to build a light railway from Changteh (Hunan) through Kueiyang to Pohnatung, a royalty on profits to go to the Peking Government and to the Kueichow Government. But the governor of Kueiyang, apparently fearing that such a concession would ultimately give foreign powers fresh political rights, objected, telling the Governor that they would work the mines. I don't suppose they are intended to—nor they never did—but they were successful in preventing the syndicate getting the concession.

On my recent trip I was interested to find that several fresh attempts are now being made to find quicksilver and presumably not without success, for some of these ventures have been going for between one and two years. In one place I saw the men smelting the ore, found out the five furnaces being in use. If there seems reason to believe that if the water could be pumped out and kept out of the past now flooded, much more quicksilver could be obtained. This was the opinion of the foreign expert referred to, who told me that with foreign machinery the water could be cleared out easily.

Pohnatung lies in a hollow, and exit either end is by climbing a fairly high hill. The main cliff, which has been worked in former years, is of a peculiar reddish tint and is honeycombed with mines, which, however, are apparently not very deep for the most part.

I once read in an old geography book that Pohnatung was the biggest quicksilver producing district in the world. I wonder if that is true!

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

Banks,	12.30 p.m.
Union,	910 buyers
Indes Def.,	130 sellers
Star Ferris,	23 buyers
China Sugars,	125 buyers
Wharves,	854 buyers
Cement,	11.65 buyers
Hong Kong Trans.,	7 buyers
Water Boats,	164 sales

COMMERCIAL.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET.

Messrs. Moxon and Taylor in their weekly share report dated 5th January state:—

Our market continues dull and depressed, and appearances point to a small volume of business until such time as money becomes easier.

Shanghai shows little or no signs of life, and practically no business has gone through with that port.

RUBBER is quoted 3 1/2 per lb. from London.

BANKS.—Hongkong Banks have buyers at \$700 after sales at the rate.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions are offering at \$990. Cantons have come to business at \$975. NORTH CHINA at \$11. 1.30 and \$1.20, and \$2.50 are unaltered from last week.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fire have been dealt in at \$375 and \$365, probably shares could be placed at the former rate. China Fires at \$155 have practically disappeared from the active list.

SHIPPING.—Douglases are offering at \$117 after sales at \$115. Deferred Indes have sellers at \$138 with buyers offering \$134, \$130 and \$140 having been done for March. Star Ferris seek buyers at \$85, and Steamboats could be placed at \$20.

REVENUES.—China Sugars have buyers at \$129 for cash with \$127 done for the end of the month. Malabons are wanted at \$37.

OILS AND MINING.—Langkats at \$11. 1.30, Rante at \$2.40, Irons at \$2.50, and Shells at 108. are all quoted at last week's level.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Kowloon Wharves are a firm market at \$84 with a small business reported at \$86, buyers being in evidence at \$91 for March. Hongkong Docks are offering at \$100, and \$105, with a few enquiries for forward shares. Shanghai Docks are quoted nominal at \$1. 89 from Shanghai but no business has been reported.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Cantons at \$101 and Hongkong Lands at \$96 remain at last week's level. Hongkong Hotels are offering at \$115. Rooms are wanted at \$8.80 while West Points at \$84 and Sownland Lands at \$35 are quiet with nothing doing.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos at \$1. 155, Kung Vicks at \$1. 144 Yangtsepoos at \$1. 51, and Shanghai Cottons at \$1. 115 are all quoted nominal with no business passing.

ELECTRIC COMPANIES.—Hongkong Electric at \$53 have been dealt in to a small extent. China Lights could be placed at \$43 and Hongkong Trams are now wanted at the slightly advanced rate of \$7.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Borneos at \$83 and China Providents at \$8.80 are wanted at quotations. Wm. Powells have come to business at \$83 and Waterboats at \$101. Dairy Farms are quoted at \$20 and Cements have weakened slightly to a selling rate of \$11.80 with no business to report.

EXCHANGE.—The demand rate on London is 24 1/2 and the T.T. selling rate on Shanghai is 67.

THE SHIPPING DISASTER AT CHEFOO.

OVER TWO HUNDRED PASSENGERS LOST.

The following details of the shipping disaster referred to in a Reuter's Cable yesterday are from the *Kobe Herald* of December 27:—

News of a terrible shipping disaster is to hand from Dairen, the steamer Hantaku Maru which runs between that port and Chefoo having run on a sunken rock outside the latter port in a heavy snow storm on Monday morning. The reports unfortunately go to show that there was great loss of life. The Hantaku Maru is a steamer of 755 tons, owned by the Awa Kyodo Kisen Kaisha. She left Dairen for Chefoo on Sunday evening at 6 o'clock and sank at the entrance of Chefoo the following morning during a severe blizzard. When the wreck of the vessel was first discovered between 30 and 40 survivors were seen clinging to the bridge, but nothing could be done to rescue them owing to the high sea running. The warship Chiyoda, a Chinese vessel of war, two steamers and several launches were dispatched to the scene, but they were unable to approach the ill-fated vessel. There were over two hundred and fifty persons on board and it is feared that almost all have perished. In the bitter weather prevailing even those who found a place of safety for the time being would probably be frozen to death. The spot where the steamer sank is said to be at the north end of the harbour of Chefoo.

The Admiralty has received a message from Nippon reporting that immediately after the disaster was received the Naval Station there dispatched the cruiser Chiyoda to the scene.

A later despatch says that Mr. Kus, of the Japanese Consulate at Chefoo, who went to the scene of the wreck, is reported to have told the Japanese special correspondent that the Hantaku Maru ran on a sunken rock between two steep bluffs. Her stern was under water. Only the bridge could be seen and on it were 12 or 13 persons crying for help. It was quite impossible to approach the wreck owing to the high sea running. The Japanese men-of-war Chiyoda and two Chinese men-of-war were standing by, but they were unable even to lower boats. Early in the morning between 70 and 80 persons could be seen on the bridge, but the number gradually diminished as one after the other dropped off, until finally only 12 or 13 remained.

The steamer had 230 passengers on board—2 Americans, 15 Japanese and 222 Chinese. The crew consisted of 20 Japanese and Chinese. It is feared that not a soul was saved.

STRAIGHT AT IT.

"THERE is no use of our 'beating' around the bush." We might as well cut it with it first as last. We want you to try Chamberlain's Cough Remedy the next time you have a cough or cold. There is no reason so far as we can see why you should not do so. This preparation by its remarkable cures has gained a world-wide reputation, and people everywhere speak of it in the highest terms of praise. It is for sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

EFFECT IN JAPAN OF PEACE TALK.

SLUMP IN STOCKS AND NEW ENTERPRISES.

Some idea of the sort of financial crash for which the world must prepare itself, and which it has been predicted will come as soon as the armistice in Europe ceases fighting, may be got from what happened recently in Japan on receipt of the news of Germany's peace proposals. The following is from the financial columns of the "Japan Chronicle":—

The German peace proposals have given a shock to the financial buoyancy of the country. This result is seen most glaringly in the heavy slump in the Stock Exchange, which it is feared, will be productive of serious difficulties. But not less serious is the set-back which has resulted to new enterprises. Readers will remember that since the Stock Exchange became abnormally buoyant and the speculative fever arose, industrial companies, especially spinning concerns, have announced the extension of their equipment and issued new shares for the purpose, which have been subscribed for at enormous premiums.

Worse still, some unscrupulous company-promoters have got up bogus companies solely with the object of making money, trading upon the speculative craze which has been fanned by the appearance of mushroom Midases on the Stock Exchange. Now the panic caused by the peace proposals of the Central Powers has created a serious situation. Some subscribers refuse to pay at all, while others, it is said, are conspiring to get the allotment money paid back to them on the theory that a company whose shares are not paid for has no legal existence. It is alleged that underwriters have adopted unscrupulous practices when booking subscriptions at a premium, one subscriber, for instance, having to pay 1.20 when his premium was only 1.10. There are said to be various other complications in this connexion, some involving difficult legal questions, and many troubles are feared apart from the set-back caused to genuine new enterprises.

In the mercantile world, however, there now seems to be a reassuring tone. As a matter of fact, certain goods are recovering their positions. The peace report lowered the price of prussic acid to 1.80 per 100 lb., but there are now no sales at less than Y. 100. Osaka quotations for 100 lbs. (copper cash), from which copper is extracted, stand at Y. 28.50 per 100 lb., while the price of 98 per cent copper is given at between Y. 62 and Y. 65 per 100 lb. These figures are nearly the same as pre-panic quotations, but at the same time are further large advance in prices not to be expected for the time at least. It is interesting to note, however, that the German peace proposals have led, among other things, to the slaying of the speculative fever, thus relieving the commercial world even only for a time, of a curse consequent upon an economic boom.

The issue of British Exchange Bonds in Japan has decreased the amount of idle money lying in the bankers' hands. In view of the steady approach of the year-end, it is said they were restricting accommodation, when the peace overtures caused the collapse of the Stock Exchange. Osaka banks then increased the restriction on advances, and it is said that some have even begun to take bank money advanced. This state of affairs has placed small banks in the provinces in a difficult position,—that is to say the banks which have been dependent upon Osaka banks. It is, therefore, feared that at the end of the year some of the small banks in the provinces will be confronted with difficulties.

Later the same paper reported:— "As already stated, the heavy slump on the Stock Exchange owing to the proposals of peace by Germany has caused, among other things, a serious blow to projects for the establishment of capital or for the establishment of new companies. A practical instance is furnished by the Kitahama Trust Co., which has now announced the cancellation of the invitation of subscriptions for its shares. According to the Osaka 'Asahi,' it is at present rather doubtful whether the projects for the Matsuda Seisakujo, manufacturers of munitions, and the Osaka Denki Bundo Kaisha, a copper refining concern, to increase their capitals will be successfully carried out in the present circumstances. Signs the beginning of December, a score of companies have invited subscriptions for shares, either for the increase of capital or for the establishment of new companies. It is said that almost all of them are confronted with serious difficulties in getting actual payment for the subscriptions, apart from the manifold complications connected with premiums and allotment plots by subscribers to withhold their payment and even to get back their allotment money. On the other hand, it is said that the companies affected are trying hard to tide over the difficult by postponing the payment of subscriptions."

STATUE OF LIBERTY ILLUMINATED.

The Statue of Liberty at the entrance to New York Harbour will be as splendid a spectacle by night, remarks a New York paper, as it has been by day, for it is now illuminated by a newly installed lighting system dedicated last month in the presence of President Wilson and many of the distinguished men of the nation.

For years there have been complaint and regret that the statue should be so poorly illuminated at night. The World, with a commendable spirit of public service, obtained permission from Congress to install the new lighting system, raised \$20,000 by popular subscription to pay for the project and now presents this great improvement to an appreciative public.

CUTTING.

To the great relief of the neighbours, the snobbish and unpoplar Jones family were moving. While the furniture was being brought out some difficulty was experienced in removing a pianoforte from an upper room, and some one proposed getting it through a large window and sliding it down. Then came a suggestion from the Jones' next-door neighbour, who had long fostered the deepest enmity toward them, though until now she had attempted to conceal it. "No," she said, "all her pent-up bitterness at last showing itself in her tone, 'let it come out as it will, in the 'instalment' system!'"—*Illustrated Explorer*.

TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

LANCASHIRE COTTON-WEAVERS.

AN ADVANCE IN WAGES.

LONDON, Jan. 5.
In accordance with an agreement made a few months ago 200,000 Lancashire cotton-weavers, mostly women, are receiving a 5 per cent. advance in wages, while the 3 per cent. advance previously granted as a war bonus has been converted into a regular advance.

JAPANESE-AUSTRALIAN TRADE.

SYDNEY, Jan. 5.
It is officially announced that the trade between Australia and Japan for the first ten months of 1916 was valued at £6,318,363, which is a record.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

GERMANY'S CHASTENED MOOD.

SPECTRE OF ECONOMIC RUIN.

LONDON, Jan. 4.
The impression is growing that Germany has so far climbed down that she has communicated to President Wilson at least the outlines of peace terms which she originally flatly refused. Meanwhile, the authorities at Washington maintain absolute secrecy, but Americans are convinced that important developments are progressing under the surface. The chastened mood of the Germans is attributed to the British blockade, which is grinding slowly but surely. The spectre of economic ruin, with the inevitable consequences of internal commotion, is evidently frightening the German leaders of all parties, although some continue their threats of frightfulness. The feeling of fear has been increased by the shortage of the harvest of potatoes, Germany's mainstay, which is but 20,000,000 tons, compared with 51,000,000 tons in 1915.

PREMIER'S MESSAGE TO THE DOMINIONS.

LONDON, Jan. 5.
The Colonial Office has published a message from Mr. Lloyd George, on his assumption of the Premiership, to the Premiers of the Dominions. This is as follows: "I send you, on behalf of the people of the country, a message to our brothers beyond the seas, that it is our unflinching determination that the sacrifices you have made, and have still to make, shall not be in vain, and the fight which we are waging together for humanity and civilisation shall be fought to a triumphant issue. We realise that we shall need every man who can be put in the field, every pound which rigid public economy can provide, and every effort which a united people can put forth to help our soldiers and sailors in their heavy task. The splendid contributions to the common cause already made by the Dominions give us sure confidence that their determination is no less high than ours, and, however long the path to final victory, we shall tread it alongside." Replies to Mr. Lloyd George's sentiments have been published from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Newfoundland.

THE STRUGGLE IN THE DOBRUDJA.

RUSSIANS FORCED TO GIVE WAY.

LONDON, Jan. 5.
With the capture of Macin, the defence of the Dobrudja is virtually over. The Russians, having evacuated the rest of that territory had to fall back on the Macin bridge-head in order to protect Braila on the flank. It has now whittled down, under pressure of reiterated attacks, until all that remains to the Russians is the narrow belt of land between the marshes, which carries the highway between the Danube and Braila, but the advance upon Braila has been so effectually retarded that it may safely be assumed that the contents of the great granaries have already been removed out of the enemy's reach.

BRITISH ARMoured CARS.

A communiqué speaks of British armoured cars tearing along the Braila-Viziru road, heavily punishing the enemy.

THE SALONIKA FRONT.

SUCCESSFUL BRITISH RAID.

LONDON, Jan. 4.
A British official report states: "We successfully raided the village of Kourpi, inflicting casualties and taking prisoners." "The Navy bombarded positions at Samuilos and Lakoviki."

THE SITUATION IN GREECE.

THE PINCHING PROCESS.

LONDON, Jan. 4.
The blockade is pinching Greece, and fights are a daily occurrence outside the bakeries. The stocks of grain and flour are barely sufficient to last until the middle of January. Mutilous Reservists are terrorising Athens, refusing to recognise any authority. Even the Military Party, which originally encouraged the Reservists, are now obliged to bow to the dictates of what is really an armed mob. The establishment of a Commune, like that at Paris in 1878, is possible.

THE CAMPAIGN IN EAST AFRICA.

FURTHER BRITISH PROGRESS.

LONDON, Jan. 4.
An East Africa official communiqué states: "We stormed on Monday strongly entrenched lines in the Mgeta Valley, southward of Uluguru Hills, inflicting heavy casualties and capturing several guns and howitzers. We pursued the enemy to within eleven miles north-west of Kibambawe, towards the Rufiji Valley. Meanwhile, a detached column made a wide detour in a difficult, trackless country, and established itself astride of the roads leading southward from the Rufiji Valley. Our forces further east established themselves astride of the tracks leading southward from Rufiji Delta, where there were considerable enemy forces. The British forces eastward of the Iringa and Ugenia line are driving a strong detachment towards Mahenge."

CALLOUS GERMAN SUBMARINE PIRATES.

DISREGARD FOR NON-COMBATANTS.

LONDON, Jan. 4.
The Admiralty announces that besides the cases of the *Rappan Hancock* and *Westminster*, a further instance of the callous disregard of lives of non-combatants is revealed in a German wireless message of November 8th which reported the torpedoing of the *North Wales*. Nothing since has been heard, beyond a piece of varnished wood marked *North Wales* which was found at Sennen Cove. Bodies stranded on the Cornish coast are presumed to be those of the crew who took to the boats when gales were prevalent and were drowned.

SHIPS SUNK.

LONDON, Jan. 5.
The steamers *Day Craig* (British) and *Britannic* and *Ellik* (Norwegian) have been sunk.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

BRITISH RAID TRENCHES.

LONDON, Jan. 4.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: "We successfully raided trenches north-east of Arras. Twice we entered positions in the neighbourhood of Wytschaete and drove off a party endeavouring to approach us east of Arras."

VIOLENT ARTILLERY DUEL.

PARIS, Jan. 5.
A communiqué says: "There has been a fairly violent artillery duel west of the Souin-Sommepey Road, in the regions of Douaumont and Pepper Hill. An enemy aeroplane dropped two bombs on Compiègne, a woman being injured. There was no damage."

TRAIN COLLISION IN SCOTLAND.

MANY CASUALTIES.

LONDON, Jan. 5.
Eleven persons were killed and 43 injured as the result of a collision between a train containing holiday-makers and a light engine, between Edinburgh and Glasgow last evening.

FLOODS IN AUSTRALIA.

IMMENSE DAMAGE.

BRISBANE, Jan. 5.
The latest reports show that the floods are extending over the whole of the interior of Queensland. Immense damage has been done. Numerous bridges have been destroyed, the railways are interrupted, and there are heavy losses of live stock.

THE SINKING OF THE "HYERNIA."

LONDON, Jan. 5.
The Admiralty, in a further report, gives details of the sinking of the *Hyernia* and states that the men missing number 120 and the seamen missing 33.

The *Hyernia* was a ship of the Cunard Company. She was built in 1900, her gross tonnage was 24,275, and her dimensions—Length, 422 feet; breadth, 60 feet; depth, 37 feet. Her speed was 16 knots.

THE SHANGHAI FIRE.

THE CABLE COMPANIES' BUILDING.

GREAT CONFLAGRATION Averted.

The "N.C. Daily News" of the 1st inst. contains the following details of the fire reported a few days ago in a cable from our Shanghai correspondent:—

One of the most serious fires in Shanghai—serious that it jeopardized Shanghai's communication with the rest of the world—occurred on Monday evening at the building in which are situated the Great Northern, Eastern Extension, and Commercial Pacific cable companies. Though the full effects of the fire are by no means as great as they were expected to be during Monday evening, they have resulted in a considerable displacement of telegraphic traffic, though the staffs of the various concerns are to be congratulated on the manner in which they met so unfortunate an experience. The fire has driven the Great Northern and the Eastern Extension to the Chinese Telegraph Administration's offices, where they are working under considerable difficulties, while the Commercial Pacific Cable Company have not had to remove. Consequently, though during the remainder of the holidays no difficulty was found in keeping pace with the messages, it is expected that with the resumption of business there will be a fair amount of congestion.

WHERE THE FIRE ORIGINATED.

The building occupied by the cable companies, No. 7 The Bund, is a detached block with wide alleyways at the sides and a fair space separating it from the building occupied by the Municipal Public Works Department.

In the rear are two wings between which is a two-fire escape running to the top, which except for the Union Building is one of the highest on The Bund. It was in the top story that the fire originated.

At about 8:20 p.m. the Central Bell Tower reported seeing strange smoke rising in the vicinity of the Bund and Foreign Roads and as it seemed that foreign property was involved, the whole of the Fire Brigade was turned out. Companies Nos. 1, 4 and 7 being the first to arrive. They had no idea where the fire actually was, and it was only after a slight delay that they went round to the back of the cable offices where they noticed smoke issuing from the roof, more particularly from the south-west corner, but also from the other wing. There was also slight flame under the edge of the roof. It would thus appear that if the fire, the cause of which is at present unknown, did not originate in two places, it at least had some hold in both wings at the time of the arrival of the brigades. The central portion of the top was smoking, but there was no fire.

THE WHOLE BUILDING AT WORK.

Lines of hose were immediately run up to the top floor to supplement the appliances installed, the pressure from which was insufficient for such work. Entry to the floor was obtained up the iron fire escape and on breaking the ceiling, the space above that and below the roof was found to be well lighted. Hooks were got to work and it was found that the conflagration was spreading to the front and had already assumed serious proportions. At the same time all the available assistance was called for, the fire boat was summoned and the Hongkew Company, which had been standing by, was called upon to attend. The floor first involved was used for storage purposes and contained a large quantity of paper, and curios. Immediately beneath was the office of the Eastern Extension, which came in for most damage. There was a fair breeze blowing and there seemed every prospect of the Brigade having a hard job to get the flames under control.

Chief Officer Peck took over the direction of the men in the building, while the staffs of the companies took in hand the removal of their instruments to safer quarters. Firemen with ladders got to work above the ceiling under protecting streams of water and succeeded in holding the fire in one or two places, but not before it had spread to the front. Here the two towers, under which were stored the paper, drew the fire in their direction and added considerably to the general blaze. The men inside the building were aided on the outside by the turntable fire escape, which placed at the north-west corner, directed streams to cover the men working at the head of the main staircase.

RENCE BRIGADE, AMERICAN BLUEJACKETS AND WATER POLICE.

The assistance was then asked for of the French Fire Brigade, which attended under Lieut. Duntin, and of the River police, as it was feared adjacent buildings might be involved, and that the main building itself might be too severe a task for the River police to deal with. In opening up floors and keeping the water from the rooms below. Moreover, the U.S.S. *Galveston* and *Holena*, which offered their services and with the staff of the brigade gave valuable assistance.

Fortunately there were only two persons when the fire broke out, the two being the lower storeys and these were on the corner facing the Club, where keeper.

one of the towers came down, broke through the floor and carried the fire with it. This spread was, however, quickly checked. Again at the back in the paper store the fire worked through the floor. It was only as the result of four hours hard work that the fire was got under. It was confined mainly to the top of the building, though, of course, all floors suffered considerable damage from water.

THE DAMAGE.

The Great Northern Telegraph Co. suffered the worst, their instrument room being badly damaged. The Eastern Extension had time enough to move a large quantity of apparatus to the Chinese Telegraph Administration, while the Commercial Pacific Cable Co. on the first floor, after removing their instruments, were able to replace them and under Mr. O. Crewe Road the staff worked so well that at 3:30 a.m. yesterday he was able to report to Manila that all was well.

The brigade continued hard at work through the early morning, and subsequently the staff went to work and damped down. It is impossible to state the actual damage, but the most valuable parts of the instruments were saved. The Great Northern Telegraph Co. are covered by insurance, but it is understood that the curios belonging to Capt. Robinson are not insured.

THE TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE.

Mr. W. Bullard, manager of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Co., was seen in the room placed at his disposal by the Chinese Telegraph Administration, where an instrument had been installed which was already dealing with messages. He explained that they hoped to be able to send to their old quarters in a few days, as the architects had assured them the walls were sound.

They were at present working "simply," i.e. one way, but it was hoped it would not be long before they were working "duplex." The machine they were using was connected with the old building, and messages would be taken downstairs over the counter of the Chinese Telegraph Administration.

There would be a delay in handling messages for a time. This at present was not noticeable as there was only holiday traffic to be dealt with, but it would be accentuated when the commercial messages were again to be dealt with.

A report was current last night that two or three persons had been arrested on charges of incendiarism. But there is no truth in this.

CHINA AND JAPAN SENDING STAPLES.

Importers from China and Japan are straining to supply the demand in this country for a wide variety of staples and supplies, according to A. S. Kuter, of San Francisco, an importer, who arrived in New York recently. Mr. Kuter said that there was a ready sale for every type of imported material that could be obtained.

Railroad facilities to transport imports from the Pacific coast to the East is our greatest problem," he said last night. "There are bottlenecks enough to bring the imports from the Far East, but because of the enormous freight movements shipping facilities from the coast are hard to get."

The imports from the Far East, he added, embrace every sort of luxury and staple necessity and convenience. Manufactured materials of all kinds which were shipped to this country from China and Japan before the war are being shipped in treble the quantity now. The demand for materials of every kind and the lack of supply, he said, have tended to advance prices.

How long this demand will last Mr. Kuter does not know, nor can he estimate how soon it will be before the supply is cut off or greatly diminished. The Far East, as well as this country and the rest of the world, depends for many of its basic materials on Europe or the countries at war, and these supplies are cut off or are so reduced as to be negligible. "New York Herald."

AMERICAN CABLES.

THE PROHIBITION QUESTION IN AMERICA.

OPPOSITION TO THE NEW PROPOSAL.

Washington, December 16.—Congress is being deluged with petitions against the prohibition amendment to the Constitution of the United States. This amendment proposes to make prohibition a federal matter instead of a question to be decided by the individual states forming the confederation.

PROGRESSIVE PARTY TO BE BROUGHT TO LIFE AGAIN.

New York, December 16.—The reorganization of the Progressive party has been decided upon in a meeting of the chief leaders from several states where the party has a foothold. It has been decided to re-organize now for the purpose of opening the way to the return of Theodore Roosevelt to the presidency at the elections of 1920.

DO YOU COUGH?

Do you cough? If you do, you are probably suffering from a cold or influenza. It is important to take prompt action to prevent the disease from spreading to others. Use a good cough syrup and get plenty of rest.

SCOTTISH LETTER.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

November 29.

STANDARD SHIPS.

In all the shipbuilding centres in Scotland the increasing dearth of shipping tonnage and the freeing of many berthes in the shipyards by the launching of Admiralty work is bringing up the possibility of starting a real scheme for tackling the shipping problem. There is, of course, a good deal of talk about standardisation, but so far the commitments of the yards have been too great, and the pressure of necessity has not been great enough. I understand, however, that we may look for a very big scheme at an early date. What is urgently wanted is cargo vessels of the most economical type; that is to say, the most economical use of steel and labour to produce the greatest deadweight carrying capacity. A free exchange of opinion has taken place between shipbuilders, shipowners, and the Admiralty, and it is probable that a scheme will consolidate under which the Admiralty itself will take over the ordering and possession of the new shipping, which will be an ideal type of cargo-carrier, specially suited to the requirements of the present time and the immediate future. One type, it may be predicted, will not meet the situation, but even if three standard types were evolved it is contended that the economy would be enormous.

GLADSTONE STATUE IN EDINBURGH.

The much discussed Gladstone memorial for Edinburgh is at last placed in position, although not yet formally unveiled. It stands in St. Andrew Square, at the east end of George Street, on the site formerly occupied by Sir John Steele's "Alexander and Bucephalus." The memorial is designed and executed by Mr. Pittendrigh Macgillivray, R.S.A., and is an imposing and original piece of work. It stands 28ft. high, is 28ft. broad, and 18ft. long; the bases are of red granite, and the main and subsidiary figures are of bronze. Mr. Gladstone is shown in Court dress, over which is the gown of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. At a lower altitude are figures on a large scale representing Eloquence and History. From the front centre there jut forward a prowlike projection carrying two boys: between them is placed a Greek tripod on which, supported by the boys, is a great laurel wreath, with bands on either side inscribed with quotations from Homer. Four upright female figures are placed round the central structure representing Faith, Fortitude, Vitality, and Measure. On one of the panels is introduced a medallion portrait of Mrs. Gladstone. The figure of Mr. Gladstone, which of course dominates the memorial, is striking and impressive. The note is one of strong character with power in repose. The group of Greek youths with the tripod is the one touch of fancy which the sculptor has allowed himself, and it imparts an agreeable note of lightness into the design.

THE PROPOSED RUSSIAN INSTITUTE.

Dundee and Aberdeen, as well as Edinburgh and Glasgow, are deeply interested in the scheme for the establishment of a Russian Institute in Scotland, the principal object of which, as I have already written you, is to bring Scottish traders into direct touch with Russian traders. A large share of the Baltic trade has always been done with the East Coast ports of Scotland; and the opening of the new ice free port of Alexandrovsk in January on the Mourman Peninsula in the north of Russia will most certainly increase this traffic. Our ports are favourably situated in a geographical sense, and they expect to trap a great deal of the tonnage that at present finds its way through Hamburg. Several leading firms are already studying the problems raised, and making arrangements for a trade campaign which will be in working order even before the close of the war. No only are the great firms looking ahead, but it is interesting to note that the youngsters who contemplate a commercial career are already making the Russian language a favourite study. In my hearing the other day a leading merchant said to the head of a large secondary school, "You are making a sport; see that you keep it up." The reply of the schoolmaster was, "It won't be a sport if you merchants give us the proper encouragement; it all depends upon you."

COMMERCIALISED SPORT.

The case at a Glasgow Munitions Tribunal, in which a prominent professional football player belonging to a Glasgow club was fined the maximum penalty for "slacking," will not tend to decrease the agitation for the suppression of all forms of commercialised sport during the continuance of the war. The facts of the case may be put shortly: Patrick Gallagher, a carpenter engaged on munitions, absented himself from his work on several occasions; he is a Celtic player, and on three of the occasions complained of he had been playing in Association League matches for his club. Gallagher did not appear at the Tribunal, but sent a letter stating that his knee was injured, and that this prevented his working. His excuse was not entertained, as it was proved that he had never missed playing for the Celtic since the season began. This representative of the Ministry of Munitions described the case as one of the worst ever brought before the Tribunal. But if our information is correct, Gallagher is not the only slacker, there are many others confected

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HONGKONG AND CHINA DISTRICT.

SALTYINGPEN DIVISION.
Wednesday, January 10th, 10:30 p.m.—Company drill.
Saturday, January 13th, 10:30 a.m.—Parade at Saltyingpen Headquarters. Dress: Drill order.

William Walkinshaw Fox, Divisional Secretary to be Divisional Secretary and Sergeant.

VICTORY DIVISION.
Monday, January 8th, 5:15 p.m.—Company drill. Queen's College Quadrangle.

Tuesday, January 9th, 5:15 p.m.—First Aid Lecture, Queen's College.

Friday, January 12th, 5:15 p.m.—First Aid Lecture, Queen's College.

Aid Lecture, Queen's College.
(Sd.) E. RALPH,
Officer in Charge of District.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

POLICE RESERVE GAZETTE.
Section Commanders who have not sent in their lists stating the number of copies required, as per personal letter from the undersigned, should do so without delay, and in any event not later than January 12th.

The Gazette Committee will meet at the D.S.P.'s office at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, January 8th.

CYCLIST PATROLS.

A number of new machines having been presented to the Police Reserve Cyclist Patrol Section is to be formed for duty on the Kowloon peninsula. Members may submit their names for selection to this office.

HEADQUARTERS CLUB.
The Reading Room will in future be open to Ladies.
(Sd.) F. O. JENKIN,
D.S.P. (L.)

"NOT JUSTIN SCALE."—MOTHER.
"You want a long time in the company with Mr. William last night, my child. What was going on?"

"Dad, I don't know what you're talking about. I was just sitting there with father before you married him!"
MOTHER.—"Lumpose I did!"
DAUGHTER.—"Well, mother, it's the same old world!"—The Star.

